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UNCLAS MADRID 001742

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FOR OES/PCI: COURTNEY TURNER AND WINSTON YU

E.O. 12958: N/A

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SUBJECT: SPAIN: ASSISTANCE FOR IRAQ ENVIRONMENTAL SECURITY

REF: STATE 99370

1. We spoke with high level officials in the Ministries of Foreign Affairs (including the Spanish International Aid Agency) and Environment regarding reftel meetings. Secretary General for Pollution Prevention and Climate Change Arturo Gonzalo Aizpiri expressed interest in sending a couple of his Ministry's experts to the workshop to perform an environmental needs assessment. He asked us to send further details when they are available. He also asked if private sector entities (NGOs, industry) would be welcome to participate. Javier Carbajosa, chief of staff to the MFA's State Secretary for Foreign Affairs, also expressed interest in principle and looked forward to receiving additional details.

2. Regarding the follow-up donors meeting, newly-installed Secretary General of the Spanish International Aid Agency

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Juan Pablo de Laiglesia was hesitant, saying his agency would need more time to evaluate assistance priorities for Iraq.

MANZANARES